



## ADVANTAGE KENTUCKY ALLIANCE (AKA)

The Advantage Kentucky Alliance (AKA) is a statewide, not-for-profit partnership that provides assistance and training to help manufacturers of all sizes grow, improve their manufacturing and business strategies and processes, adopt advanced technologies, increase productivity, reduce costs, and improve competitiveness. AKA's cost effective services give companies the tools to be competitive. Whether it is a spot solution or total transformation, all technical assistance and training is customized to fit their objectives.

AKA provides manufacturers with services they need to achieve a 20/20 balance: at least 20% growth to their top line, along with at least 20% decrease in bottom-line costs. These services address top-line growth for clients, specifically focusing on identifying new sales, developing new products, entering new markets, and deploying new business models. With professionals averaging over 20+ years of applicable in-industry experience, AKA can deliver the training and services needed to address the full spectrum of needs faced by businesses and the industry.

## ECONOMIC IMPACT

MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2020



**\$73.9 Million**

Total Increased/Retained Sales



**2,441**

Total Increased/Retained Jobs



**\$44 Million**

New Client Investments



**\$14.8 Million**

Cost Savings

## CONTACT US



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## CI - VALUE STREAM MAPPING EVENT

**ABOUT TAPER ROLLER BEARING INC.** Taper Roller Bearings (TRB) was founded in 1972 to design complex tapered bearing assemblies, and today is a company with the speed and precision to serve a full spectrum of clients. Today's bearing assemblies are put to work everywhere from precision scientific equipment to assemblies for railroad engines

**THE CHALLENGE.** TRB is an ISO 9001:2015 registered company. Part of their certification is the necessity of documented continued improvements in all processes. TRB needed a way to identify, quantify, and implement documented changes. Most employees have been TRB for several years and, as a result, struggled to identify true improvements within current processes. TRB needed an evaluator from outside the company to help the TRB team and to reduce or eliminate any concerns or issues.

**MEP CENTER'S ROLE.** TRB employed Advantage Kentucky Alliance, part of the MEP National Network™, to help train the TRB staff to identify, quantify, and eliminate "non-value added" activities. AKA worked with a team of 23 TRB employees to map out 2 production lines, identify potential inefficiencies, and create action plans for resolution.

**"AKA did a great job helping the TRB staff not only be educated on proper value stream mapping techniques but how to truly make a difference on the TRB shop floor through identifying and removing inefficiencies."**

-Tom Jones, Owner



## RESULTS



**13%** potential cost savings identified on production line



Elimination of **\$10,000** per anum on material flow



**5** employees certified in VSM



Created an action list of **100+** action items

